

216, a cancel offers button 218, cancel all button 220, cancel all for all instruments button 222, a price entry field 224, price up and down buttons 226, bid price up and down buttons 228, offer price up and down buttons 234, a size entry field 230, and size up and down buttons 232. Dialog window 200 may contain a preference field 236 that allows a user to specify preferred types of orders, a close-on-action box 238 that causes dialog window 200 to be automatically closed after specified actions are performed, a configure keypad button 240 that allows a user to arrange the keypad for dialog window 200, a close button 242 that closes the dialog window 200 on demand, a settings button 241, and a display history button 243 that causes a history list of order entries to be displayed when pressed. Finally, dialog window 200 may contain a 2-Way button 244 and a 2-Way box 245. 2-way button 244 causes a two-sided market trading dialog box, as illustrated in FIG. 3, to display and may allow the trader to enter two-sided trades. By selecting box 245, the trader may enable two-sided trading as the default mode of trading. If two-sided trading is set as the default mode, all orders will be initiated as two-sided market orders.

Preference field 236 may be used to indicate the user's preferred trade type and may allow the user to select any type of trade that a particular exchange or trading system supports. Although FIG. 2 provides specific examples of trade types (e.g., good-till-canceled (GTC), limit, all-or-none (AON), stop, and market-if-touched (MIT)), the invention may be implemented with any type of trade.

Configure keypad button 240 may allow a trader to arrange buttons appearing in dialog window 200 to be anywhere a trader prefers by first pressing the configure keypad button 240, by then dragging the
5 buttons to new positions, and finally by clicking on button 240 again. Also, the configuration or re-configuration of buttons can change the function of those buttons depending on the type of trading desired or what type of item is being traded.

10 Although any of the approaches described herein to submitting a trading command may be used independently of the others, two or more approaches may also be used substantially simultaneously. For
15 example, when using a command-line interface, an entry verification feature of the present invention may display a graphical interface to confirm a trader's intentions after a command-line trade command has been entered. Similarly, as another example, after clicking
20 on a component of a bid and offer 101 in a market cell 100, an entry verification feature of the present invention may display a graphical interface to a trader to allow the trader to alter and/or confirm the command being submitted.

To speed entry of a trading command when
25 using various approaches to submit a trading command substantially simultaneously, the present invention preferably includes a pointer warping feature that redirects the focus of the pointing device pointer to another location of the trader's display. In
30 accordance with this feature, for example, when a trader clicks on a bid price 102 (\$100.21 as depicted in FIG. 1) in a market cell 100, a dialog window 200 may pop-up (if not already open), and a pointer that is

being used by the trader may be immediately redirected to a bid button 212 to save the trader the time of repositioning the pointer to that location. Once in the new location, the trader may then use the pointer to confirm and/or modify the trade command and then submit the trade command using bid button 212. Although this feature of the present invention is described in connection with a pointing device pointer, this feature may be implemented using any suitable graphical interface pointer, cursor, or similar object.

Assume instead that, in the previous example, the trader wants to increase bid price 102 to \$100.22. When the appropriate trade submission approaches are used substantially simultaneously, the trader may click anywhere on the displayed bid and offer 101, and thereby cause dialog window 200 to appear. At this point, the trader may press bid button 212 once and thereby cause bid price 102 (\$100.21 as illustrated in FIG. 1) to appear in price entry field 224. To increase bid price 102 from \$100.21 to \$100.22, the trader may then press price up button 226, or press bid price up button 228. When dealing with an offer, the trader may press price up button 226 or press offer price up button 234. Because time is typically of the essence, the trader will preferably use bid price up button 228 or offer price up button 234 because it is closer to bid button 212. Finally, to submit the bid, the trader may click on bid button 212 again to submit the bid. Alternatively, if the trader didn't want to alter the price, the trader could have double clicked immediately on bid button 212.

After any trade command is entered by pressing bid button 212, offer button 214, buy button